

**Geothermal energy can be used for heating and cooling. For example, it heats green houses, district heating, fisheries, mineral recovery, and industrial process heating. In** [**Reykjavík**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reykjav%C3%ADk)**,** [**Iceland**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iceland)**, spent water from the district heating system is piped below pavement and sidewalks to melt** [**snow**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snow)**. Where natural hot springs or** [**geysers**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geysers) **are available, the heated water can be piped directly into** [**radiators**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiators)**. Heat pumps for home heating are the fastest-growing means of exploiting geothermal energy, with a global annual growth rate of 30 percent in energy production.**  <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geothermal_energy>

<http://cooltext.com/Logo-Design?LogoID=662137062&BackgroundImage=12>

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**Advantages**

* **Virtually unlimited**
* **Availability will continue to increase**
* **Cleaner energy source than fossil fuels**
* **Base-load energy source**
* **Safer to develop and use than fossil fuels**
* **Conserves fossil fuels, still required in some applications**
* **Contributes to diversity of energy sources**
* **Independent of weather**

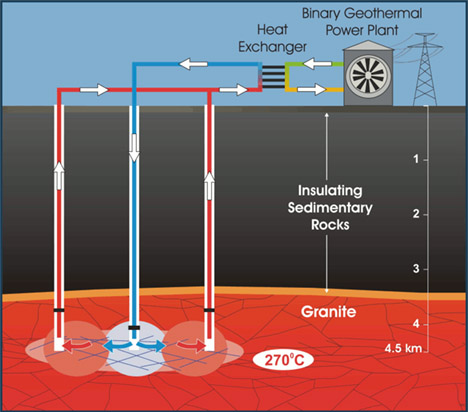
**Disadvantages**

* **Not universally available**
* **Emissions- 0-88 lbs. of CO2 per megawatt-hour**
* **Geological instability- Basel, Switzerland operation suspended (10,000 seismic events = 6 days)**
* **20% failure rate- with significant harm to the environment**
* **High cost for drilling and exploration along with corrosion maintenance and can out-weigh benefit**

<http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What_are_the_advantages_and_disadvantages_of_using_geothermal_energy>

<http://cooltext.com/Logo-Design-Neon>





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<http://www.climatepedia.org/Geothermal-Energy>

<http://cooltext.com/Logo-Design-Nova>



[**Hot springs**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hot_spring) **have been used for bathing at least since** [**paleolithic**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paleolithic) **times. The oldest known spa is a stone pool on** [**China**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/China)**’s Lisan mountain built in the** [**Qin dynasty**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qin_dynasty) **in the 3rd century BC, at the same site where the Huaqing Chi palace was later built. In the first century AD, Romans conquered** [**Aquae Sulis**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquae_Sulis)**, now** [**Bath, Somerset**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bath,_Somerset)**, England, and used the hot springs there to feed** [**public baths**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermae) **and** [**under floor heating**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypocaust)**. The admission fees for these baths probably represent the first commercial use of geothermal power. The world's oldest geothermal district heating system in** [**Chaudes-Aigues**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chaudes-Aigues)**, France, has been operating since the 14th century. The earliest industrial exploitation began in 1827 with the use of geyser steam to extract** [**boric acid**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boric_acid) **from** [**volcanic mud**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volcanic_mud) **in** [**Larderello**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larderello)**, Italy.**

**In 1892, America's first district heating system in** [**Boise, Idaho**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boise,_Idaho) **was powered directly by geothermal energy, and was copied in** [**Klamath Falls, Oregon**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klamath_Falls,_Oregon) **in 1900. A deep geothermal well was used to heat greenhouses in Boise in 1926, and geysers were used to heat greenhouses in Iceland and** [**Tuscany**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuscany) **at about the same time. Charlie Lieb developed the first** [**down hole heat exchanger**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Downhole_heat_exchanger) **in 1930 to heat his house. Steam and hot water from geysers began heating homes in Iceland starting in 1943.**

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geothermal_energy>

<http://cooltext.com/Logo-Design-Chrome-Two>

**Super-heated water in pressurized form from underground is piped to a geothermal generating station. Once the water is released from the pressure, it turns to steam. The steam then turns a turbine which is hooked up to a big generator. Then in the generator there is a magnet that goes around a big coil of wire that creates friction and then the generator produces electricity.**

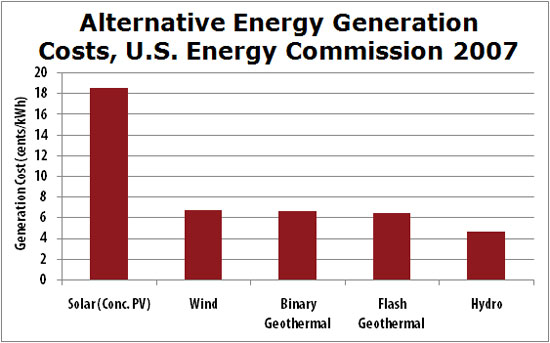
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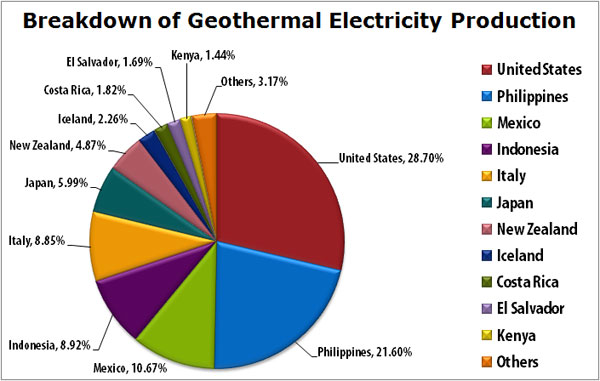
<http://seekingalpha.com/article/123371-is-geothermal-the-next-hot-energy-source>

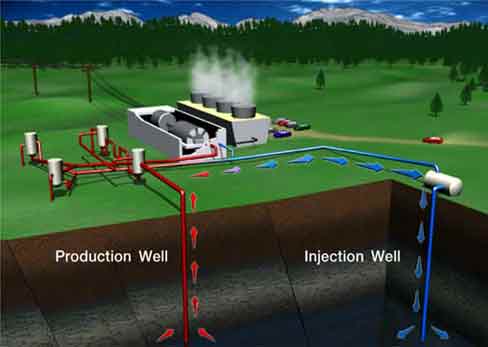
<http://www.wired.com/wiredscience/2009/03/devworldgreen/>

<http://cooltext.com/Logo-Design-Alien-Glow>









<http://www.top-alternative-energy-sources.com/what-is-geothermal-energy.html>